SOUTH VIET NAM In struggle

6th Year – May 8. 1972

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CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

2 - AUG 29
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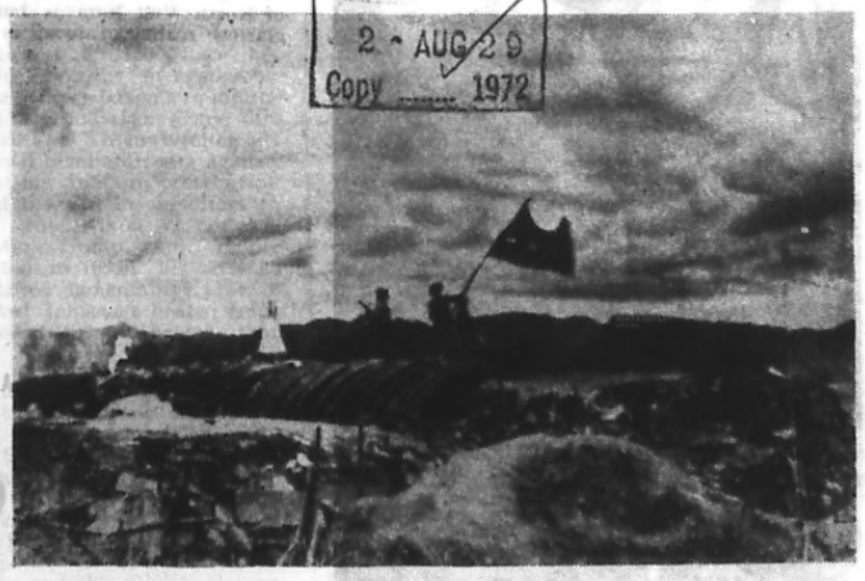
The Dien Bien Phu tradition of determination to fight and to win is becoming the spirit of the current offensive which is overwhelming the enemy on various battlefields. The offensive and uprising of the South Vietnamese people are unfolding on a large scale, and with great swiftness, intensity and efficacity, dealing a new crushing blow at the "Vietnamization" policy.

In the past eighteen years since the great victory of Dien Bien Phu, the Vietnamese armed forces and people have made big steps forward on the path of struggle for the independence and freedom of the whole country and the building of the socialist North. The Vietnamese nation, performing its historic mission of the present time – defeating the US, the arch-imperialist and the enemy number one of mankind – is vigorously pushing their revolution forward.



THE crucial test of forces in Dong Ha-Ai Tu-La Vang-Quang Tri ended with the victory of the PLAF. Once again, the invincible strength of the people's war had the better of the war of aggression waged by US imperialism in a principal sector.

Quang Tri thus becomes the first province in the South Viet Nam to be completely liberated. Except the few chieftains of the local puppet administration and the diehard agents of the pacification teams who tried to escape, almost all the people of all strata in the provincial town and in the countryside stayed back to join the fight beside the PLAF. A large area with more than three hundred thousand inhabitants has been liberated.

The glorious victory in Quang Tri is a very hard blow dealt at the "Vietnamization of the war" policy of Nixon.

In the "Vietnamized" war of the US, the Quang Tri defence line was regarded as one of their "toughest points." There are not many such strong defence systems in the whole of South Viet Nam and they are seen only in the major cities, military complexes and strategic areas.

By smashing this major defence system of the US-puppets, the PLAF have hurled the enemy a very long step back, shaking the whole of their defence system in South Viet Nam and eloquently demonstrated the PLAF's capability of defeating the "Vietnamized" war militarily right in the places where the enemy are the strongest.

The Quang Tri victory is the result of the formidable punches of the regular army of the PLAF in close co-ordination with the people's war and the uprising of the people throughout the countryside in the province.

● *May 1954: The Dien Bien Phu historic victory put an end to French colonialism in Indochina*

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● *18 years later, May 1972, with the liberation of Quang Tri, the bells toll for the Vietnamization policy of US imperialism*

The PLAF gunners ready to flatten enemy "hill-top enclaves"

The pirate sounding the alarm

NIXON once again delivered another speech. No novelty in it. And no wonder at this, as Nixon remains Nixon. However, this time his customary flow of semantic could no longer conceal his criminal acts. This time, his bellicosity, brutality, obstinacy and perfidy, in brief, Nixon the "hawk" has finally popped out.

IN THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION

HE announced another pullout of 20,000 GIs in the two months to come, but the tempo was reduced and the term shorter. It is clear that he is still reluctant to withdraw them rapidly and totally, refusing to set a terminal date for such withdrawal. On the other hand, the repatriation of another 20,000 American soldiers does not mean an end to the war at all, as US air and naval forces have been on the increase. According to western sources, 139 B-52 strategic aircraft and 600 fighters of various types have so far been used by the US in the Indochina war while 25 aircraft-carriers and warships are now operating off the Viet Nam coast. This in no way is an "end to US involvement in the war" as clamoured by Nixon. Instead, though having had to bring back US ground forces, the Pentagon gets committed more deeply to Viet Nam in an effort to salvage the Vietnamization of the war and its Saigon client administration.

THE SOLE AGGRESSOR: US IMPERIALISM

NOW, Nixon is rehashing the same worn-out tune of "invasion of South Viet Nam by North Viet Nam," of "offensives on a "neighbouring country" and "violations of the 1954 accords," and so on... This is but the re edition of the callous slanders left behind by his two predecessors to make people confound the aggressors with their own victims. A jurist, Nixon has turned his back to realities, history, geography and international law. How on earth can there be a Viet Nam "neighbour" to Viet Nam or a "neighbouring America to America? Isn't Nixon's forged "boundary" between 2 Viet Nams a flagrant violation of the 1954 Geneva Agreements which solemnly recognize Viet Nam's "independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity?" On the globe, as well as in fact and history, there has always been one Viet Nam stretching from the Nam Quan gate to the Ca Mau Point. The Vietnamese in southernmost Viet Nam who fight back aggression breaking into the North or vice-versa, simply fulfil their national duty. Did'nt the national hero Nguyen Hue rush southward then northward to drive away the invaders and safeguard the independence, freedom and unity of his country? Nixon's calling South Viet Nam a "neighbouring country" of North Viet Nam is but deliberate denial of a glaring reality. Taiwan is hundreds of miles away from China mainland but remains part of her territory. Then, in the world to-day, how can the Ben Hai narrow stream become the "boundary" of two Viet Nams which never exist in history? No distortion nor violence can blur or erase that truism. There is only one Viet Nam, a single Vietnamese nation. And Viet Nam belongs to the Vietnamese. Never is there question of the Vietnamese in Quang Binh, Vinh Linh, Nghe An, Ha Tinh invading or attacking other Vietnamese in Quang Tri, Thua Thien, Quang Nam and Quang Ngai. Those provinces have sworn brotherhood and their inhabitants altogether have been discharging their anti-aggression duty. They all are kith and kin who, from generation to generation, through weal and woe, life and death, have been defending each inch and the green of their homeland. The only foreigners, the only aggressors facing them are none other than the Yankees, be they from New York, North Carolina, New Jersey or Texas. None of them hails from the Mekong Delta, the Central Highlands, Saigon, Da Nang or Hue. Their mere presence in Viet Nam encroaches upon the air-space, waters and territory of Viet Nam, violates the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of this country, and infringes upon international law. With modern weaponry and war means, and heinous crimes perpetrated in both zones of Viet Nam, they are treading upon the spirit and contents of the 1954 Geneva Agreements on Viet Nam. American GIs' presence in Viet Nam is unjustifiable. They are the expeditionary army sent in by an imperialist power thirsty of world hegemony. And the US and its quislings' domination is a neo-colonialist one. Successive US presidents from Truman, Eisenhower to Nixon to-day have been bent on making South Viet Nam a US military base and colony. Nixon's Vietnamization of the war is a policy of colonialist aggression worked out after the fiasco of the "special" then "limited" war waged by his predecessors. That policy actually means Saigon mercenaries, continuation and expansion of the war backed by part of US combat troops and increased air and naval forces. The present fierceness of the hostilities fully testifies to this.

So, there has never been aggression of Viet Nam by the Vietnamese, except the one carried out by the US imperialists against this country. That is why US troops have been and are being beaten black and blue by the Vietnamese in both zones. That is why the US government has been subject to vehement protest from the American people and stern condemnation of mankind. The anti-US pro-national struggle of the Vietnamese is just and conform to the world's progressive trend. It is part of the national liberation tide, an active contribution to the safeguard of world peace. It enlists unreserved support from the friends across the 5 continents. That approval and aid gives the lie to Nixon's slander of the sacred right of any patriotic citizen, any sovereign nation to save themselves. The Vietnamese are proud of their traditional glorious patriotism, their history of indomitable resistance to foreign aggression. In face of the current invasion, following up their elders' tradition and tiding over all hardships and sacrifices, they unflinchingly continue with their fight for national independence and freedom. Whenever aggression weighs on their land, the Vietnamese are firm in their resolve to strike back. As long as the Yankees carry on their conquest, the Vietnamese keep fighting them till complete victory. Anywhere in Viet Nam, there is invasion, the Vietnamese reserve to themselves the right and duty to put up resistance to aggression.

OUR RIGHT TO LEGITIMATE SELF-DEFENCE

WITH his fabrication of "invasion from North Viet Nam," Nixon announced on April 26 and 30, 1972 that US air and naval attacks will continue until North Viet Nam stops offensives on South Viet Nam and, that the said attacks aim at protecting the lives of US troops in South Viet Nam, and ensure their withdrawal program. This swindle of his has been rejected by public opinion. The DRVN is a sovereign socialist country. Nixon has no right whatsoever to touch on an iota of land, air and sea of that heroic land.

Air and naval strikes at the DRVN has not been the way to protect the lives of American GIs. Instead, that is the way leading them to an unnecessary death on the battlefields, or to prisoners' camps in Viet Nam in increasing numbers. The path to terminate the woes of all Americans has been charted by the Americans themselves in the previous and current Spring offensives: to bring back all the boys home, end the Vietnamization of the war and let Thieu down... The Nixon administration has brushed aside all these legitimate claims, turned a deaf ear to the RSVN PRG's fair and logical 7-point peace proposal, and defied universal censorship. For their part, the people of Viet Nam have given Nixon a riposte he fully deserves. US air marauders and corsairs have received smarting thrashes. "One blow of the Yankee brigand at the North shall be returned by 5, 10 from the South." Loyal to that pledge, South Viet Nam goes on with its onslaughts and uprisings, pouring without let-up its deluge of fire on the heads of the aggressors and their flunkeys, to make the former quit and the latter topple, smashing to pieces Nixon's and his likes' Vietnamized war plan.

It is understandable that Nixon's aero-naval war can in no way save them from pitiable failure in South Viet Nam and on the Indochina battlefields. Just like Johnson previously, Nixon is inviting upon himself reeling blows from the North. Once again, the USAF's supremacy licks the dust. B-52 flying fortresses notorious for their blind carpet-bombings, have been unable to help the aggressors and their quislings get some gains on the ground. As western agencies put it: never before has a war been won by air forces alone, and if Viet Nam was the unique case, what would prove this? For its part, *BBC* commented: It is possible that Mr Nixon stands behind the Saigon army, but first the latter must stand firm before.

Alas, the Saigon soldiery is being routed irremediably. They have had to cling to the choppers' skids in their flight from Snuol (Cambodia) and is now running helter-skelter in their debacle all over the South Viet Nam battlefields. It is unquestionable that Thieu's army cannot stand on its own, despite stronger US air and naval support together with a sizeable contingent of US combat troops. It is simply a rotten "backbone" of the Vietnamization of the war. It cannot assume the role of shock forces in Indochina according to the Nixon doctrine. The realization of neo-colonialism and the maintenance of US occupation through a Vietnamized war is just wishful thinking. The strategic formula: native infantry plus US air and naval support has proved lamentably ineffective after repeated tests.

Nixon's air and naval attacks on North Viet Nam are designed to strike at the big rear of the Vietnamese anti-US pro-national struggle, at the morale of the Vietnamese nation, thereby sapping the supply of the rear to the front. But the resistance's arteries have not only been preserved by the blood of our people and army, but also by the will of a whole nation. The unrestricted flow of aid to the resistance is the national obligation of the rear which no hardware whatever can break. The longer the resistance, the better the organization of supply to be sent to the front line. The countrymen in the North are striving day and night to build socialism and increase manpower and resources for South Viet Nam, in defiance of US bombs and shells. The South Vietnamese are proud of, and much moved by, their heroic rear of socialist North Viet Nam, the prop and faith of the great front.

THE TOOL OF VIETNAMIZATION

Nixon has made no bones of his persistence in maintaining the US-paid Nguyen Van Thieu administration, clamouring that the American government will not give up that "legal" Saigon regime and will allow no one to "impose" another political administration there. Nixon contradicts himself with his own words. He himself and nobody else has "imposed" upon the South Vietnamese a colonialist domination, an utterly odious quisling administration. Everybody is aware that thus far the said Saigon administration has been rigged up by the US. Its survival is due to US dollars and bayonets. It represents nobody and is a mere tool for US aggression and domination.

SUCH an administration has no juridical basis at all to exist, though Washington has time and again staged farcical elections to paint it with a veneer of "democracy" and "legality." No wonder that Nixon obstinately maintains the Nguyen Van Thieu regime, thereby exposing his aggressive design and utilization of the Thieu agency as an instrument for Nixon's Vietnamized war. Nixon's continued employ of the Nguyen Van Thieu regime and resumption of the aero-naval war for the protection of his placeman, can be explained only by his "imposition" upon South Viet Nam of a colonialist regime which tramples underfoot the right to self-determination of the South Vietnamese people, and runs counter to their legitimate demand for the overthrow of the Nguyen Van Thieu administration and the formation in Saigon of another one that favours peace, independence and democracy.

WE ARE RESOLVED TO FIGHT AND TO WIN

THERE were a lot of things in Nixon's April 26, 1972 speech. But all his volubility, crafty and flowering rhetoric cannot cover up his customary duplicity and sinister aggressive design. The pullout of another 20,000 US troops and his peace hoax, can never veil his crime of aggression and acts of war. On the contrary, Nixon's re-inforced air and naval support to the Saigon army, his maintenance of the Nguyen Van Thieu hireling administration and continued bombardments against the DRVN has spelled out his stubborn prosecution of the Vietnamization of the war in an effort to salvage his colonialist rule. Nixon is not the first to play the aviation trump card. Before him, Johnson had resorted to it in his attacks against the DRVN and failed lamentably. Out of despair, Nixon has followed Johnson's beaten track only to perpetrate crimes still more heinous than those of his predecessor.

But, no matter how far the tonnage of Nixon's hardware surpasses that of Johnson, he cannot avoid failure and rescue his Vietnamization of the war together with the Saigon quislings. Instead, the more he commits crimes, the heavier his defeat. US bombs and Nixon's insolent threats coupled with his perfidious tricks can never subdue the Vietnamese people. At the call of the NFL and the RSVN PRG, in response to the appeal of the Viet Nam Workers' Party and the DRVN Government, our people from North to South are determined to step up perseveringly their resistance, foil every military venture of the US imperialists, put to a complete check the Vietnamization of the war, liberate the South, defend the North, in advance toward the peaceful re-unification of the country. The South Vietnamese people, shoulder to shoulder with all their countrymen and the brother Lao and Cambodian peoples and armies are resolved to doom completely the "Nixon doctrine" in Indochina. That is the iron will of the South Vietnamese people, the entire people of Viet Nam and those of the 3 Indochinese countries. That is also the irresistible will and confidence of our whole nation and our friends all over the 5 continents. Nixon's failure is unavoidable and clear. No machiavellian scheme can save him from his gloomy plight, except a way wide open before him: total and rapid pullout of US troops, an end to the Vietnamization of the war and disavowal of the quisling Nguyen Van Thieu administration.

THIEN LY

The NFL welcomed by the Catholics

Persuasion work among enemy—a deadly weapon

THE past few weeks have seen the tide of revolution surge vigorously in all the three strategic regions — the mountains, the plains, and the towns. On all the fronts, the three prongs of the people's war offensive have been pushed with force and continually, which has resulted in signal successes for the people. Victories, like flowers, have competing one another to bloom forth every where in South Viet Nam.

In the course of their sweeping uprisings the people have persuaded enemy "Security," "People's self-defence" and "Civil Guard" forces to join them, in hundreds of platoons and companies. So doing, they have made their offensive many times more impressive, to the growing bewilderment and confusion of the enemy.

Other enemy units of all descriptions, frightened by the tidal onslaught of the South Vietnamese people and their armed forces, have deserted, run away, or revolted by the thousands, causing the collapse of large chunks of the quisling machinery and further setbacks to the criminal "pacification" campaign of the US-Thieu clique.

In vast areas in many provinces the people and relatives of Saigon soldiers have cooperated with the local liberation armed forces in popularizing the ro-point policy of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government. Their patient explanations and persuasion have triggered a wave of collective antiwar actions among the Saigon army. The Liberation Armed Forces, combining armed attacks and agitation work, have brought about the surrender of large Saigon units, like the 9th Brigade in Eastern Nam Bo, and a number of other main forces units.

Along main communication lines and around the towns, hundreds of thousands of people including relatives of puppet troops have surrounded enemy reinforcements to urge them not to resign themselves to die for the US-Thieu clique. Faced with the people's firmness and irrefutable arguments, many units have mutinied on the spot. Others have rallied to the people.

The people also march on district towns or provincial capitals where enemy troops, back from bloody battles, are being regrouped, to demand the return of their men, announce fresh successes of the PLAF, explain the policy of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government, and urge the troops to return to people and their families.

Another tactics of the people is to besiege the posts where Saigon troops are garrisoned to avoid disintegration under the mighty offensive of the PLAF. There, enemy troops are called upon the rise up against cruel officers, to raze their positions, and cross over to the revolutionary forces. It is being widely applied in the central part of Central Viet Nam, on the High Plateaux, in Western Nam Bo, and especially in Kontum, Darlac, Binh Dinh, Ben Tre and Tra Vinh provinces.

The shattering offensives and uprisings of the armed forces and people of South Viet Nam and the popular policy of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government have caused, among other things, a fast spreading wave of desertions, revots, and mutinies among the Saigon forces. The revolutionary administration in many central and delta provinces has now a great deal of extra work to do to provide breakaway Saigon soldiers with necessary facilities to go to the liberated zone for participation in the resistance, or to urge their friends still in the enemy army to seize every opportunity to show allegiance to the revolutionary forces.

These new gains of agitation work have further accelerated the disintegration of the Saigon army. They are also quickening the total bankruptcy of the very notorious design of the "Nixon doctrine" to set Vietnamese against Vietnamese.

On the other hand, they have proved the great popularity of the to-point policy of the RSVN Provisional Revolutionary Government, which has shown Saigon troops the way to escape destruction.

They have been due to the experience gained by the South Vietnamese people in the many years of struggle against the US-Thieu clique, and which has now been put to use on a larger scale in keeping with the growing awakening of the Saigon amy.

South Viet Nam PLAF Big Victories in TAY NGUYEN, CENTRAL TRUNG BO AND QUANG TRI – THUA THIEN

* **Defence line north and northwest of Kontum shattered, Dakto-Tan Canh liberated, PLAF pressure on Kontum provincial capital**
* **3 districts north of Binh Dinh province and Hiep Duc (Quang Nam province) liberated, enemy inside Da Nang kept under fire**
* **Shining gain in Quang Tri: 10,000 enemy put out of action, the province completely liberated**

WHILE the US-Saigon troops had to cope with the devastating offensives of PLAF in Quang Tri province and on the An Loc - Highway 13 front, thunder blows were rained on them on the High Plateaux and Central Trung Bo.

The whole defence line which the US-Saigon Command had painstakingly established and consolidated on the mountain ridge north and north-west of Kontum, especially since mid December 1971, "to get ready to cope with all offensives," was smashed to pieces. After capturing "Charlie" and "Delta" bases and other fire bases southeast of Tan Canh, on the morning of April 24, the PLAF on the High Plateaux sprang a surprise assault on the whole of this major defence system of the enemy on Highway 14 in Dakto-Tan Canh, making a clean sweep of the enemy force there including :

– the command and staff of the 22nd Saigon Division together with its 42nd and 47th Regiments,

– the whole 14th Armoured Regiment with all its outfits comprising three tank and armoured battalions, and one battalion and many companies of artillery,

– 7 "civil guard" companies and all the police force in the Dakto-Tan Canh military subsector.

"By a lightning action the communists captured Tan Canh, the headquarters of the forward command of the 22nd Division." "The fall of Dakto-Tan Canh is a major disaster for the Saigon army." These were comments by the US Saigon commanders on April 24 when this important defence complex fell into the hands of the High Plateaux liberation forces. It was the first time a division command together with the major part of its force were quickly written off. The rest of the enemy strength stationed in Kontum were under heavy pressure. This took place within only six hours on the morning of April 24, and it certainly was not the only and last surprise for the US-Saigon Command on this embattled High Plateaux.

To save the situation, Abrams and Nguyen Van Thieu ordered the remaining units to fall back and form a new defence line at Vo Dinh, less than 13 miles north of Kontum town. But long before the order came, all their troops stationed along the Ngoc Bo Bieng ridge had fled in disorder, leaving behind all armaments and equipment. Many tanks, big guns and even aircraft were captured by the liberation forces and immediately the encirclements was tightened. Enemy communication on Highway 14 from Pleiku to Kontum was brought to a complete halt. Fighting continued to rage on the Kontum front.

While the military spokesman of the Saigon regime warned that "the main attack of the communists seems to have switched to the High Plateaux," a series of stormy onsets were launched in the plains of Central Trung Bo, especially in Binh Dinh and Quang Nam provinces.

On April 29, the PLAF completely erased the military subsector and defence installations of the enemy in Hoai Nhon district town and completely liberate Bong Son town on Highway 19. They knocked out or completely disbanded one main-force battalion, one multi-company unit of the "civil guards," six scout and intelligence companies and eight militia platoons and took many prisoners. Many other enemy troops gave themselves up. It was a lightning and highly devastating coup in a populous area of the plain. An *AFP* correspondent reported on April 29 that "the Communists had launched a violent attack on the town in the early hours of this afternoon and at night they had captured it." The Saigon major district governor of Bong Son was reported killed during this action (*AP*, April 29). By this new exploit, the PLAF and people in Binh Dinh shattered the US-Saigon defence line and machine of coercion and broadened the liberated zone in an important strategic area. It was another stunning blow dealt at the "pacification" program in the coastal area province of Central Trung Bo, one of the key targets for "pacification."

Meanwhile, the Quang Nam PLAF and people pressed their offensive and uprising with success. According to initial reports, also on April 29, the Quang Nam – Da Nang area PLAF completely destroyed the defence complex and military subsector of Hiep Duc district in Quang Nam province, completely liberating this district, a major locality of Quang Nam comprising eleven villages and covering nearly 200 square miles. The PLAF captured a good many adverse men and weapons. The whole of the "people's self-defence" force of the enemy in the area defected. Hiep Duc is a district in the contested area lying on the road connecting Da Nang with the High Plateaux. It was an important link in the defence line of the US-Saigon rule southwest of Da Nang. The enemy had built there a fairly solid defence including a string of hill-top positions and defence installations in the district town, in the hope of creating a "forward defence line" for Da Nang.

The Quang Nam PLAF and people have not only crushed the outer defence perimeter of the enemy but also kept up their attacks against them in their inner perimeter, driving them into a very critical defensive position and inflicted serious losses on them. Since mid-April the PLAF have mounted a dozen assaults on the Da Nang and Nuoc Man airfield and the Da Nang military port, taking a high toll of enemy troops including more than 100 Americans, mostly pilots and technicians, shot down and destroyed 78 aircraft of various kinds, wrecked 23 military vehicles and shot afire two war vessels.

The offensives of the PLAF and people of the plains of Central Trung Bo have broken big chunks of the defence line of the enemy in the coastal plains. The perplexity of the US - Saigon command which had been passively moving troops from one place to rescue another under the widespread and powerful onslaughts of the liberation forces in the coastal provinces of Central Trung Bo, was aggravated.

The PLAF entering Dong Ha capital town (Quang Tri)

Moving meeting between the PLAF and the inhabitants of newly liberated Gio Hai (Quang Tri)

QUANG TRI PROVINCE COMPLETELY LIBERATED

The SVN PLAF have liberated the whole of Quang Tri province just south of the DMZ together with its population of close to three hundred thousand.

Their assaults, which lasted five days only, resulted in the putting out of action of nearly 10,000 enemy, of them some one thousand, including many field and company officers, were taken prisoner.

Material losses inflicted on the enemy comprised close to 100 105mm and 175mm cannon and about 1,000 military vehicles, including more than 200 tanks and armoured personnel carriers, destroyed or captured, and 46 war planes shot down or blasted on the ground.

At 5.30 a.m. on April 27 the PLAF simultaneously opened up at major enemy bases in Dong Ha, Ai Tu, La Vang, the capital of the province, and defences in the coastal Trieu Phong and Hai Lang districts.

By the afternoon of the following day the PLAF had driven the enemy out of a vast area from Dong Ha town to Lai Phuoc bridge to the south and, on April 30, they took Ai Tu, the military subsector, and the district town of Trieu Phong.

Quang Tri town itself and the military subsector and the township of Hai Lang fell on May 1. The enemy escape route on Highway 1 from Quang Tri town to My Chanh on the bank of the river O Lau further south was strewn with charred carcasses of enemy armour.

The Saigon garrison in the province was literally annihilated with the 1st Division put out of action, 2 Marine divisions heavily decimated, the 4th and 5th Ranger Multi-Battalion Groups and the 11th, 17th, 18th and 20th Armour Regiments wiped out, the 369th, 248th and 147th Brigades and the 1st Ranger Multi-Battalion Group trounced, and dozens of "security" companies disbanded, and with the revolt or surrender of entire units and thousands of troops.

US-Saigon supply lines heavily battered

ALONGSIDE the powerful Liberation Army attacks on the heavily-guarded US-Saigon defence lines, the PLAF have been mounting waves of major coups against the enemy military communications network in all battlefields, exacting a great toll. Their devastating blows behind the enemy lines have seriously upset the enemy's troop deployment and the funnelling of supply and support to various defence lines under heavy pressure. In the first half of April alone, the adverse losses in manpower and materials along important communications lines were rather heavy. In the Central Highlands, 243 military vehicles, mostly tanks and armoured cars, were destroyed on Highways 14, 19 and 21. In a single action on April 22 in the Kontum-Gia Lai sector, the PLAF made short work of 58 enemy military vehicles. In the first 8 days of April alone, the Liberation fighters operating in Tay Ninh province wrecked or seized 60 tanks and other armoured engines on the strategic road 22 linking Saigon to Phnom Penh. In separate ambushes laid on April 7, the patriots active in Binh Long completely knocked out Saigon Task Force 52, capturing more than 200 prisoners and over 200 vehicles. Later on, they wrote off 3 Saigon armoured sub-regiments involved in rescue operations. In the Quang Tri-Thua Thien-Hue sector and in the delta plains of Trung Bo and Nam Bo, the local armed forces and people have stepped up assaults on key enemy communications lines in different forms and on different scales. The enemy waterways and air routes are not safe either. Regional troops and guerillas in the Mekong delta have sunk or shot ablaze dozens of adverse war vessels, including 5 with a displacement ranging from 10,000 to 15,000 tons. Over 50 aircraft have been shot down in Kontum, Quang Tri and Thua Thien.

These relentless and widespread activities have landed the US and Saigon in the most precarious ever situation and this has occurred at a moment when, seriously battered on all fronts, they were digging in on the defensive, waiting for food, munitions and fuel supplies. By striking hard at the enemy military communications lines, the South Vietnamese armed forces and people have isolated the enemy frontlines and bases from their rear, and confronted the demoralized enemy troops in these areas with a shortage of food, drinking water, ammunition and other supplies, thus compounding their confusion and reducing their fighting power. In reporting on the fix of the enemy troops on route 12, Western correspondents have cited the case of an American lieutenant and his men who had run short of food and drinking water for days and completely exhausted finally had to drink muddy water. This, however, was no isolated and unpredictable incident. In order to hold and protect their bases, the US-Saigon command had to spread thin their forces to guard and clear the roads and bridges. The defending troops being already below strength, they are now drawn on to do combat support jobs. This is a major contradiction between concentration and dispersion facing the US-Saigon command in the organization and use of forces. It is now aggravating. By hitting at the enemy reinforcements and troops guarding bridges and roads, local PLAF have been getting at the adversary on the move. So doing, they are well in a position to bring into full play their fortes and devise most effective tactical methods to outwit and out-manœuvre their numerically strong and heavily equipped enemy. It happened that a major relief column of 15,000 men and 40 tanks were pinned down by communist ambushes and fire (according to a *Reuter* dispatch on April 22).

For nearly a month, with the initiative in their hands, the South Vietnamese armed forces and people have displayed great creativeness in fighting the enemy along strategic communication lines. All the 3 categories of troops—regulars, regional and guerilla—have smoothly coordinated their actions. While main force units are engaged in major battles, destroying whole enemy land and river convoys, bringing down large numbers of enemy transport planes flying supply missions, and wiping out columns of enemy relief troops, the regional troops and guerillas swing into action along communication lines, cutting roads, blasting down bridges, and destroying enemy tanks, war vessels and aircraft group by group and one by one. Along with ambushes and surprise attacks devastating for enemy manpower and mobility facilities, the PLAF also make thrusts into the enemy rear base, playing havoc among enemy logistic compounds, military ports, airfields and motor pools and uprooting road protecting outposts, and thereby pushing the enemy further onto the defensive with no possibility to dodge the punishing punches of the Liberation Army.

The signal exploits achieved in recent days by the PLAF along routes 13, 14, 19 and 22 have largely contributed to the great advances of the South Vietnamese armed forces and peoples.

THANH HONG

5 out of 13 divisions of the Saigon army put out of combat

WITH one-month offensive, the PLAF have dealt stunning blows. at the Saigon army. 5 out of its 13 main force diviions have been beaten black and blue.

The 3rd Infantry Division decimated on Highway 9 defence line, was put out of action in Dong Ha and Quang Tri, the 5th Division lost many battalions and regiments in Loc Ninh, An Loc... The 22nd Division was inflicted the heaviest thrashes in Tan Canh – Dakto and north of Binh Dinh, all its 4 regiments badly mauled. As for the Para and Marine Divisions regarded as the "best forces of general strategic reserves" of the Saigon soldiery, they sustained serious losses in Quang Tri – Thua Thien and the Central Highlands.

Among the remaining divisions, the 1st Infantry Division in Thua Thien — Hue, the 25th Infantry Division in Tay Ninh and the 21th Infantry Division which had just left the Mekong Delta for the sector of Highway 13, received hard punches.

By order of the Pentagon, Abrams - Thieu plan to turn the civil - guard and militia into regular troops. That is just a "patching-up" measure because these units have been heavily battered. The aggressors have in fact no other option. The regulars playing the principal role in all armed forces, the plight of the Saigon army will unavoidably lead the aggressors to strategic disaster.

MARCHING INTO QUANG TRI CITY

PLAF men threw themselves into the river Vinh Phuoc with their clothes on. Once out of the water, they went on running wet through save their weapons. Quang Tri city was in front of them.

Enemy planes shuttled to and fro overhead. Rockets shrieked like hurt wild beasts. Fearing liberation anti-aircraft fire, they dropped bombs wantonly, which did not prevent the PLAF advance toward Quang Tri.

The tank formation under Nguyen Van Thai opened the way of the liberation troops by thrusting through the cordon of adverse tanks and armoured cars poised at Trung Chi and Dai Ang. On a few kilometres' distance from Highway 1 to Thanh Han River, American-made M.41s and M-48s moved about like crabs. "Straight forward!" Nguyen Van Thai's order gave fresh strength to his mates. Gun barrels of both sides were raised, pointed at each other, while PLAF tanks rushed ahead as in a hand-to-hand fight of infantrymen. Unable to stand this fierce test of strength, the adverse formation was disintegrated in a matter of minutes. Thai's unit broke through clusters of burning tanks. Behind it were the liberated town of Dong Ha and Lai Phuoc Bridge being repaired by liberation engineers under the protection of a strong anti-aircraft fire.

"Who allowed you to go this way?" shouted a man of the engineers' unit. "Go backward at once or you all get killed by bombers."

"We're carrying ammunition," said the driver who led the convoy. He showed his head out of the cabin and beats its door apparently to appease the man.

"Ammunition? Pass on. As for the jeep, backward immediately."

Some people jumped out of the jeep and run to the bridge guards. One of them explained:

"Those men and women sitting with us in the command car are members of the Quang Tri City Military Committee."

"How can you enter Quang Tri when the liberation of Ai Tu is not yet completed?", a guard retorted.

Pointing his finger to the radio antenna which conspicuously stood out of the jeep, the one who bore an insignia of the Provisional Revolutionary Government on his breast, interposed:

"News came that Ai Tu had been entirely liberated this morning. We'll just be in good time there."

"And the next command car?", the same guard queried again.

"It's bringing our comrades in charge of the city's power plant, post-office and state hospital."

LIVING for years in the enemy's grip, thirty thousand of our countrymen in the provincial capital of Quang Tri had been waiting days and nights for the moment to see liberation troops with their own eyes. While panic-stricken Saigon remnant troops moved in utter confusion in the direction of Hue, everyone perceived that that moment was approaching. For four days running gun reports were heard on Highway 1. We shall surely hear accounts of how the PLAF took hold of the key bridge of Lai Phuoc when the enemy still maintained a dense network of defence works all around at La Vang—Tich Tuong, Ai Tu and in Quang Tri city itself. The adverse commanders, who had been prodded by American "advisers" to counter-attack for retaking the bridge, did not expect at all that liberation forces could irrupt into the place so soon. Nearly all of those who attempted to wrest back control over this strategic position were mowed down by machinegun fire. A soldier who had sided with the PLAF recounted: "They promised to promote one grade upward anyone who would manage to kill a Viet Cong at the bridge. But I was not so silly as to try to do that. Arriving at the city's public square, I furtively parted from my detachment and went on my way following the river bank. At a point I passed from one rock to another standing above the water until midstream and from there I swam to this side to meet you."

As the PLAF held on to the bridge, ground troops and tanks crossed the river Vinh Phuoc and went as far as Trung Chi and Dai Ang from where they drove the adversary to Giang Han. He had but to move to the other bank of the fast-running river Thach Han in order to profit from a good natural defence line. Nevertheless, at the very moment he attempted to do so, liberation heavy artillery took him by surprise. Thrown into complete confusion, many officers and men of the commando, marine and armoured (Nos 11 and 20) units who tried desperately to cross the river in cars and tanks disappeared in the water never to surface again.

"Officers and men of the Saigon army! Don't waste your lives for the benefit of the American aggressors and their lackeys, traitors to the nation. Return to the Fatherland, to your fellow-countrymen. Give up your arms and go in the direction of Dong Ha where you will be received by liberation troops and the Military Committee." Guns had made room for megaphones which became all the clearer. More and more Saigon troops went in the opposite direction of the PLAF.

The latter's withered-green-grass-painted tanks engaged in the water, leaving white wakes behind them as they reached midstream. So did soft-hat and green-uniform wearing ground troops with every means available on the spot. Local people lent them their motor boats. They poised their anti-aircraft guns at eventual incoming armed helicopters. The scene — the width of the water, the plain grown under maize and rice, the open sky — moved them to the utmost, they who a month earlier, lived at the narrow source of the same river, under the thick canopy of forests.

FIGHTING grew tougher and tougher on the portion of Highway 1 from Quang Tri to Hue, especially in the Nhung Bridge area 7 km to the South of the former city. The bridge spanned a river of the same name. Adverse air activity never stopped. The clouds generated by the explosion of bombs dumped by jets and B.52 mixed with natural clouds so low during those days. Tanks, armoured personnel carriers and supply — carrying vehicles of every description started withdrawing across Nhung Bridge. One after another—over 100 in all—they were blown up by the PLAF fire from all sides. Confusion reigned at La Vang — Tich Tuong Base, the hardest hit. The enemy fled across the railway track in the direction of Quang Tri, his troop strength thinned out with every passing moment. Soldiers and officers alike plundered clothes from the local people, put them on and, abandoning their weapons, mingled with the latter.

The PLAF soon advanced beyond Tich Tuong and La Vang church, accentuating their pressure on Quang Tri city.

Quang Tri city now played the role of the centre of a new defence line on a 30-km distance from Dong Ha to My Chanh. This line is fronted by a belt of bases extending from Tich Tuong, La Vang and Ai Tu to the entrenched camp of Dong Ha, and backed from behind by a dense system of militia and security-guard garrisons all over the two districts of Trieu Phong and Hai Lang. Driven to an impasse, the enemy sought to flee to the plains. He hoped that, with the help of similar garrisons in the population concentration zone of Gia Dang confining on the coast, and other ones forming a cordon from the central part of the plains to the district town of Trieu Phong adjoining Quang Tri city, he could safely reach My Thuy in several columns and from there get aboard American warships or withdraw to Hue along the provincial road.

But Gia Dang was rapidly liberated. In coordination with the PLAF attack, 10,000 inmates of the concentration zone rose up to dismantle it. PRG flags mushroomed at Lang Giang, Dao Dau and Phuong Lang. The way to My Thuy was thus blocked. The wave of offensives and uprisings expanded to Da Nghi and Don Que. Then it was the turn of Hai Lang and Trieu Phong district towns to be captured by the PLAF.

Liberated from an 18-year-old yoke, the inhabitants of Hai Lang and Trieu Phong seemed to take part in a festival that day. They crowded at crossroads, waved their hands and gleefully gazed at liberation troops and tanks crossing their villagers. Many of them, with knives and ultra-rapid sub-machineguns they had just seized, joined the PLAF.

A young combatant took the hand of an elderly man, saying: "You look very much like my father."

"My son is of your age. He's now in Quang Tri jail. Where then is your father?"

"He too has been in Quang Tri jail for ten years now."

With tears in their eyes, the young liberation soldier and the new elderly "voluntary" ran side by side, followed by a stream of men and women resolved to avenge members of their families in a life-and-death fight with the enemy. All of them rushed in the direction of Quang Tri city.

NO scene can be compared to the disorderly retreat from Quang Tri of the enemy's several dozen-thousand strong force stationed here.

"For long we haven't put up any resistance," said the leader of a group of mercenary troops. "We're surrendering to liberation forces."

"Lay down your weapons and sit down."

Busy marching forward as they were, that's all the PLAF soldiers could say to Saigon armymen who had been captured as POWs or offered to surrender. A column coming from the eastern direction had to receive several hundred of them.

Deploying past Tinh Hoi Pagoda, a prong that was to operate in the eastern part of the city suddenly turned to the direction of its gate. Taking a shortcut fronting the administrative and security districts, elderly townsfolk led liberation troops in their thrust to the jail area. Hundreds of their countrymen, relatives and comrades kept here got out of the prison wards and embraced their liberators, eyes full of tears.

"Sonny!"

"Daddy!"

"Long live liberation troops!"

Female guerillas rushed to the door through which crawled women prisoners, their feet in shacles. The hardest-tempered fighters who looked at them could not help shedding tears.

"Where's the commander?"

The father who followed the PLAF found out his son among the detainees. Leading him with one hand and holding the ultra-rapid submachinegun in the other, the man was fetching the PLAF commander.

"Allow him to join in," he said. "I let him follow liberation troops everywhere, to the earth, until all South Viet Nam is freed."

Our combatants fanned out into the main thoroughfares. The PRG flag was already fluttering over the residence of the province chief, the market hall and the power plant. People get out of their underground shelters to welcome them. The streets were littered with vehicles, military equipment and ammunition. The barracks and American "advisers" quarters were completely destroyed by heavy artillery wounded soldiers left behind by the enemy lay helter-skelter on the pavements, by the side of ill-smacking corpses.

That's what has remained of Nixon's "Vietnamization" of the war in the capital city and everywhere else in the indomitable province of Quang Tri.

Q.T.

Hail North Viet Nam's Outstanding Exploits

THE South Viet Nam people and liberation armed forces have been greatly fired by the successes of the army and people in North Viet Nam against the US imperialists' new war escalation in the form of the downing of several US aircraft and the shooting afire of many US warships. Most remarkable were the Quang Binh army and people's knocking down of the 3,500th US plane over North Viet Nam and the Fourth Military Zone artillerymen's setting ablaze or damaging 19 US war vessels in the first three weeks of last April.

The US imperialists have for long wanted to quench with military strength the Vietnamese people's fight for independence and freedom and have met with successive bitter setbacks. But obdurate and bellicose by nature, the Nixon clique have blindly engaged farther on this dangerous path. To get out of their South Viet Nam predicament, Nixon has adventurously escalated the war against North Viet Nam. He has deployed the biggest ever fleet of B-52's and warships in wanton bombings and strafings of many densely populated areas including big cities and Hanoi.

But he has received a relevant riposte from the entire Vietnamese people. The South Vietnamese have in the past few days dealt thunder blows at the US aggressors and their henchmen. And in the North, within only 25 days, the people and armed forces grounded 68 US aircraft, killed or captured many American air pirates, blasted to pieces six B-52 "flying fortresses", set on fire or damaged several US war vessels. In their air raids against Haiphong and Hanoi alone, the aggressors lost 15 planes. It is obvious that Nixon's arrogant challenge is an utterance of a punch-drunk but still blustering boxer.

The North Vietnamese army and people's bagging of 3,500 US aircraft so far can be credited to their "resolve to fight and to win" and extraordinary stamina.

It also shows that North Viet Nam's strength has not only stood all trials but even become more powerful in the process. Socialist North Viet Nam, the big rear of the whole country, is in a position to check all US military adventures, and has a firm enough sense of purpose to tide over all difficulties, and together with their Southern kith-and-kin, to completely defeat the US aggressors and their hirelings.

The North Vietnamese coastal armed forces and navy have on many occasions given due rebuffs to the US aggressors by shooting afire or damaging US warships and sending to the bottom many US commando craft.

Our Northern kindred have made plain their will never to be cowed by any threat of violence. They also have adequate facilities to resist the enemy and inflict big losses on them.

The South Vietnamese address their warmest congratulations to their North kith-and-kin whose brilliant deeds have stirringly stimulated our people in the whole country and our friends in all parts of the world.

Their downing of the 3,500th US aircraft over North Viet Nam and setting aflame and sinking of several US battleships is a cogent proof of the US aggressors' heavy failure. For all their stepped-up aero-naval attacks on both zones of our country, Nixon and company have been unable to intimidate the Vietnamese and to stem the South Vietnamese army and people's sweeping offensives. They have instead fanned up the flames of hatred in the hearts of the entire Vietnamese people, further hardened their determination to fight. The gunshots at US aircraft and warships in the North, the offensive and surging wave of uprisings in the South have been the Vietnamese people's devastating answer to the criminal "escalation" of the Nixon clique.

THE South Vietnamese army and people will make more resolute efforts to implement their pledge to their Northern kinsfolk that *"for each blow at the North, the US will receive 5 or 10 from the South"*. The entire South Vietnamese people and PLAF will follow up successful onslaughts, overcome all difficulties, further intensify their struggle, strike harder at the enemy, wipe out a big amount of their manpower and war materials, actively shatter the enemy grip, widen the liberated areas, and foil their "pacification" plan and "Vietnamization" strategy.

Thanh Hoa youths in combat-readiness

the DRVN in brief

• DRVN President Ton Duc Thang has recently sent a letter commending the Quang Binh army and people for their bravery and downing of 635 US aircraft so far and of the 3,500th US plane over North Viet Nam. The President recommended the Quang Binh army and people to join their counterparts throughout the country in upholding the "determined to fight and to win" spirit, heightening vigilance, strengthening solidarity and endeavouring to translate into deeds President Ho Chi Minh's words "as long as there is a single aggressor left in our country, we must fight on to sweep him away."

• On the second anniversary of the Indochinese People's Summit Conference, Premier Pham Van Dong had a cordial interview with Sieng An, Central Committee member of the National Unity Front of Kampuchea and Ambassador to Viet Nam; Khamphay Boupha, Central Committee member of the Lao Patriotic Front, and Nguyen Phu Soai, acting Head of the Special Representation of the Republic of South Viet Nam in North Viet Nam.

The DRVN leader and the said representatives unanimously affirmed the iron-like resolve of the heroic Vietnamese, Lao and Cambodian peoples to remain true to the spirit of the Joint Statement of the Indochinese Peoples' Summit Conference, promote their initiative of action, continue to march forward to victory and completely defeat "Vietnamization" and the "Nixon doctrine" in Indochina.

• Haiphong has worked out new combat plans with a high sense of urgency and mobilized its people to take satisfactory anti-airraid precautions and stand ready to duly riposte to US planes and battleships.

Many localities have called conferences to assert the resolve of "every citizen to be a staunch fighter against US aggression for national salvation."

THE 3,500th

NEWS of successes of the people and armed forces from Hanoi to Quang Tri, Thua Thien and Nam Bo (Mekong Delta), from Haiphong port to Da Nang, Binh Long and Tay Nguyen (High Plateaux) have filled the whole population in Quang Binh with joy in the recent days. Up to April 19, 1972, in North Viet Nam 3,499 US pirate planes were downed. This heartening figure further stiffened their determination "to emulate each other in bringing down the 3,500th plane of the US marauders", which had become a holy order of the day to every gun battery, every combatant in the province.

The 3rd group of the DB missile unit was known to all friendly units for its marksmanship; so far it had brought down many US pirate planes. Not long ago, the Quang Binh population had witnessed a thrilling battle of the gunners of this outfit; two US jet planes were blasted to pieces at the same time by two missiles. The 3rd missile group was now standing ready. The group leader Nguyen Van Tam and his men had spent last night discussing their plan for a new battle.

By noon, in the scorching sun two US jet planes appeared from behind a mountain range, then suddenly veered and headed for the sector A of the battlefield. The go order was given. Group leader Tam and the whole missile crew quickly spotted the enemy and hung on to them.

"Get at the leading plane!" A missile streaked into the sky.

At the CP, radarmen Doan Huu De, Pham Cong Hoa and Bui Van Bach closely coordinated their actions, and the missile hit the target right at the moment it came out from behind a mountain. The plane was cut into two, burnt like a torch and crashed at the mountain foot. It was the 3,500th US war plane downed over the North. The other jet turned tail.

Since early this year, the people in Quang Binh province have witnessed many US aircraft set ablaze by the local people and armed forces. But this time they were particularly gratified by the sight of the 3,500th US plane so deadly hit, and burning so fiercely.

Later, the US imperialists sent in other aircraft to wantonly bomb many densely populated areas in Dong Hoi provincial capital. But here they also met with a dense ground fire from the 1st missile group, the A-A artillery unit TP, the gun batteries of the militia, the city self-defence units and the air defence force in Loc Ninh and Ly Ninh villages in Quang Ninh district. As a result, one more marauding plane was set aflame and many others damaged.

On April 20, 1972, on its score board, Quang Binh province chalked up the figure 635, the total to date of US planes grounded in the province, leading all the provinces in North Viet Nam. The people and armed forces of the embattled province are worthy of the confidence and pride of the whole nation, worthy of the three *Independence*, hundreds of *Military Exploit* and *Distinguished Services* medals by the National Assembly and Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam; and worthy of 4 certificates of merit and the *"Determined to fight the US aggressors"* banner sent by President Ho Chi Minh.

The new splendid feats-of-arms of Quang Binh province were well deserved blows dealt at the enemy and at the same time a due riposte from our entire people and armed forces to the new criminal and desperate military adventures of the US warmongers.

From the second front to the total victory in Viet Nam

NEW flareups, especially after April 16, have rocked the US, from coast to coast, with hundreds of thousands of Americans of all ages, political leanings, creeds, trades, skin complexion and race, and from dozens of cities and hundreds of campuses, taking to the streets to score Nixon's "peace plan" as a bomb. They urged the dropping of Nixon on Haiphong, ransacked induction centres, picketed air bases, stopped a Viet Nam-bound navy ammo ship, and condemned Nixon's use of tax money to drag on the Viet Nam and Indochina wars. Arrows were shot at the heart of bloodthirsty Nixon in San Francisco. Water was dropped on the head of war maniac Nixon in New York. Fire consumed on diehard Nixon in New Hampshire. RSVN and peace flags fluttered atop flag poles at Kezar Stadium and others places.

The White House's repressive machine complete with police dogs, clubs, tear gas, grenades and water hoses was put into action. But the fascist crackdown has failed to stamp down the American people's anti-war movement. Bigger and more ebullient protest demonstrations have been planned for the coming days.

Once again, Nixon grossy miscalculated. He believed that with his rhetoric about "a generation of peace" and "an era of negotiation," with his diplomatic ploys and with his gradual troop pullout trick, he would be able to defuse war dissent at home, easily escalate war, perpetrate more bloody crimes in Viet Nam and Indochina while making it possible to discard Viet Nam as an issue in this election year.

Developments in the States have shown that the issue which has been weighing heavily for years on the conscience of those Americans who love freedom and reason remains the unjust, illegal, immoral and criminal war waged in Viet Nam by their government. The lies told by successive American administrations since Truman have shattered their confidence in the establishment. The latest moves taken by the Nixon administrations — sabotage of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam and war escalation to an extremely serious degree — have brought home to them that the promises made by Nixon during the past few years are but despicable and shameless deceptions unknown even in Johnson time. Far from ending, the war grows fiercer and bloodier. They are now deeply aware that "Vietnamization," part of the Nixon doctrine, is essentially a change-over as far as the conduct of the war is concerned. US ground troops are to be replaced by US air and naval forces and the dollar is to turn hundreds of thousands of Vietnamese into mercenaries for the realization of US neo-colonialist ambitions. American opinion has pointed out that Nixon's unique plan on Indochina (thus far) has been the implementation of new strategies with a view to searching a military victory, ensuring the position of that government that comprises the Saigon fascists, placemen of Washington (Richard Ward — *Guardian*, April 26).

Many an American feels sick and ashamed because of their uprecedentedly brutal president in history, who has been using many deadly weapons to kill the civilians (Wilfred Burchett).

In whatever form, the Viet Nam war still is the longest and costliest war having far-reaching impact on the day-to-day life in America: political division, economic stagnation, social unrest, a dimming international image, etc. How can the American people let the top warmakers in the White House and the Pentagon freely pursue a war which has badly affected their everyday life, perverted the nation's younger generations and led the country to unforeseeable tragedies. Therefore, the resolute anti-war activities carried out by the American people have been promoted not only by the hurt done to their vital interests or simply by the love of justice, peace and by international solidarity, but first and foremost by genuine patriotism. This explains their broad mass character. They are similar to a liberation movement against US imperialism, the enemy No One of progressive mankind, the common enemy of the Vietnamese and American people and all oppressed nations in the world.

The tumultuous rallies and demonstrations held in recent days against the step-up of the US air and naval war in Viet Nam and the serious US war escalation against the DRVN by thousands and thousands of people in France, West Germany, West Berlin, Britain, Switzerland, Belgium, Spain, North Europe, Iceland, Australia, Canada, the Philippines, Japan, India, Chile, Guiana and most of the socialist countries have been indications of the wholehearted support given by the world's peoples to the Vietnamese and at the same time a token of the worldwide sympathy and coordination with the American people's Spring Offensive.

Nearly 6 years ago, on August 19, 1966, when referring to the 2nd front against US imperialism, Chien Si concluded his article by saying: "Hard hit on both fronts, the US imperialists are doomed to failure, the American and the Vietnamese peoples are bound to win."

On April 26, 1972, an American weekly magazine wrote: Johnson had been forced to yield to a two-front attack on his policy... Nixon was now faced with a similar prospect.

On the main battlefield, the SVN people are mounting shattering attacks. On the 2nd front, the American people are launching their offensive with resolute political actions spearheaded against the lair of US imperialism. In addition, worldwide joint actions against US imperialist aggression in VN are gaining momentum. With this many-pronged and well-concerted onslaught, total victory certainly belongs to us, the Vietnamese people, the American people and freedom-, justice- and peace-lovers round the world.

DAI LIEN

Viet Nam Veterans' anti-war march to San Francisco

in brief * in brief * in brief

FRANCE — On the afternoon of April 25, over 20,000 people from Paris and its vicinity paraded on a 1.2 mile-long road portion from Republic Square to National Square shouting slogans against US war escalation in VN and voicing support for the Indochinese. Leaders of 50 French political, trade-union and social organizations were in the van of the demonstration.

Similar protests were also staged in Toulouse, Montpellier, La Rochelle...

WEST BERLIN — The biggest ever demonstration was held there on April 22 with over 10,000 participants. Starting from a workers' area, the protesters attended a meeting on Kurfuerstendamm road, displaying South Viet Nam PRG flags and streamers reading "US imperialists quit Viet Nam!", "Stop savage bombings!", "The US must immediately return to the conference table!"...

GERMAN FEDERAL REPUBLIC — In recent days, people in Stuttgart, Hannover, Bremen, Saarbrucken, Munich, Dusseldorf, Hamburg, Hessel, Marburg, Nuremberg, etc, have held meetings and demonstrations, against Nixon's hysterical war acts on April 16 against the Vietnamese.

BRITAIN — In a parade which took place in London throughout April 22, the marchers symbolically washed a blood stain on a US flag every two hours.

On April 27, addressing a mass meeting before the US Embassy in London, British M.P. Lord Fenner Brockway asserted the wholehearted support of Britishers of all walks of life for the Vietnamese and Indochinese peoples' anti-US, pro-national salvation fight till complete victory.

On the same day, similar parades against US war escalation in Viet Nam erupted in several big cities such as Sheffield, Glasgow...

CUBA — Following an over 30,000-strong meeting on the afternoon of April 17, against the US air war intensification in both zones of Viet Nam, other "Support Viet Nam" activities such as statements, communiqués, petitions, messages and letters, meetings and talks were staged throughout the country.

SWITZERLAND — People in Zurich and Geneva respectively on April 22 and 25 held demonstrations and displayed streamers reading: "Down with US imperialism!", "Immediate and unconditional end to bombing attacks (against VN)!", "Viet Nam to the Vietnamese!", "Long live the (South VN) NFL!"...

SOUTH VIET NAM — CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION